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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Proceeding	92047262
Party	Plaintiff Roast of the Town, Inc.
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I hereby certify that this Reply Brief in Support of Summary Judgment is being electronically filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, on the date set forth below.

I hereby further certify that a copy of the below Reply Brief in Support of Summary Judgment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Harold L. Marquis at Thomas Kayden Horstemyer & Risly, LLP, 100 Galleria Parkway, NW Ste 1750 Atlanta, GA 30339, Attorneys for Opposer.

Date of Signature and Deposit: October 1, 2007

Johanna M. Wilbert

# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

In the Matter of Registration No. 2,760,766: ESPRESSIONE Issued on September 9, 2003

Roast of the Town, Inc.,

Petitioner,

v.

Cancellation No. 92047262

Espressione International, Ltd.,

Respondent.

#### REPLY BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF SUMMARY JUDGMENT

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This is a simple matter. Petitioner has been using ESPRESSIONS in connection with custom blended coffees and teas continuously for the past eighteen years, significantly longer than Respondent's use of the ESPRESSIONE. Respondent has failed to identify any factual dispute that is relevant to the legal issues at hand or present evidence to refute priority. Therefore, Petitioner is entitled to summary judgment.

## **ARGUMENT**

There are no genuine issues of material fact, therefore summary judgment is proper. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56. A factual dispute is genuine only if a reasonably jury could resolve a factual matter in favor of the non-moving party. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248,

106 S. Ct. 2505, 91 L. Ed. 2d 265 (1986). A fact is material if that fact is "relevant and necessary to the proceedings." Opryland USA Inc. v. The Great American Music Show Inc., 970 F.2d 847, 849-50 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Disputes regarding facts that would not alter the Board's decision on the legal issue should not prevent the entry of summary judgment. Kellogg Co. v. Pack'em Enterprises, Inc., 951 F.2d 330, 333 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Here, in an effort to confuse and complicate the issue, Respondent has focused on factual issues that are neither disputed nor relevant. Specifically, there is no genuine dispute regarding distinctiveness, abandonment of the previous registration, or whether there are any instances of actual confusion. Because these issues are neither relevant nor disputed, such issues do not preclude summary judgment from being entered in favor of Roast of the Town.

#### A. ESPRESSIONS is distinctive.

The following undisputed facts support the conclusion that ESPRESSIONS is a distinctive mark.

- The word "espressions" is not found in the dictionary or understood to have a common meaning. See <u>Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary</u> attached as Exhibit A.
- ESPRESSIONS was sufficiently distinctive to obtain registration on the Principle Register as Registration No. 1,601,195. (Wilbert Decl. ¶ 3, Ex. 1.)
- The pending trademark application for ESPRESSIONS, Serial No. 78/851,222, was examined and was not rejected for lack of distinctiveness. (Wilbert Decl. ¶ 5, Ex. 3.)

Given these facts, Respondent's assertion that there is a genuine dispute as to the mark's distinctiveness is not credible. A mark consisting of a fanciful word that was previously found distinctive enough to be registered on the Principal Register does not lose its distinctiveness merely because Respondent has identified a handful of infringers. Respondent has put forth no

evidence showing that the mark has become generic or that it has ever been used as a descriptive term. Lacking such evidence, the undisputed fact is that the mark is distinctive.

#### B. Lack of registration does not equal abandonment.

It is undisputed that for a period of approximately three years and ten months there was no registration or application for the mark ESPRESSIONS; however, lack of a registered trademark does not equate to the abandonment of the mark. Rather, "[i]t is actual usage of a symbol as a 'trademark' in the sale of goods which creates and builds up rights in a mark" not whether a trademark registration was live. Mccarthy on Trademarks § 17:9. As a result, any dispute between Petitioner and her former counsel regarding the circumstances surrounding the abandonment of the previous registration and application is not relevant.

Rather, what is relevant is that the mark was used continuously from a period before Respondent's use of the mark began to the present. Actual use has been established through declarations and exhibits, including business records, advertisements, and news articles. (Romberg Decl.; Paulsen Decl.; Wilbert Decl. Ex..) Respondent has submitted no factual evidence to challenge this fact of actual continuous use. There is no evidence that Petitioner's coffee business ever ceased operations or that use of the mark was suspended for any period of time. As a result, there is no dispute over the material facts: the trademark registration lapsed, but the mark was in continuous use. As a result, there was no abandonment.

In an effort to create a dispute, Registrant has stated that "these exhibits raise many questions about material facts" but fails to identify any such questions. Registrant likewise alludes to the need for depositions, yet has failed to notice any such depositions despite the fact that discovery has been open since April. As such, Registrant's unsupported claims that such discovery is needed appear disingenuous and should not be a reason to deny summary judgment.

### C. Lack of actual confusion is not dispostive

"[T]he lack of any occurrences of actual confusion is not dispositive inasmuch as evidence thereof is notoriously difficult to come by." <u>Gillette Canada, Inc. v. Ranier Corp.</u>, 123 U.S.P.Q.2d 1768, 1992 TTAB LEXIS 24 (TTAB 1992). The test is whether confusion is likely to occur - not whether it actually did occur. <u>On-line Careline, Inc. v. American Online, Inc.</u>, 229 F.3d 1080, 1084 (Fed. Cir. 2000).

The following undisputed facts support the conclusion that a likelihood of confusion exists:

- The Trademark Examining Attorney assigned to the ESPRESSIONS application applied the <u>DuPont</u> factors and determined that "contemporaneous use of the marks ESPRESSIOINE (used on coffee) and ESPRESSIONS (used on coffees and teas) would be likely to cause confusion." (Wilbert Decl. ¶ 5, Ex. 3.)
- Both marks consist of eleven letters, the first ten letters of which are identical.
- Both marks are used on coffee.

Respondent has not offered any evidence to refute the fact that there is a likelihood of confusion.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Petitioner has established prior use of a distinctive mark that is confusingly similar to Registrant's. As a result, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board grant Petitioner's motion for summary judgment and cancel Registrant's registration of ESPRESSIONE.

Dated: October 1, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

ROAST OF THE TOWN, INC.

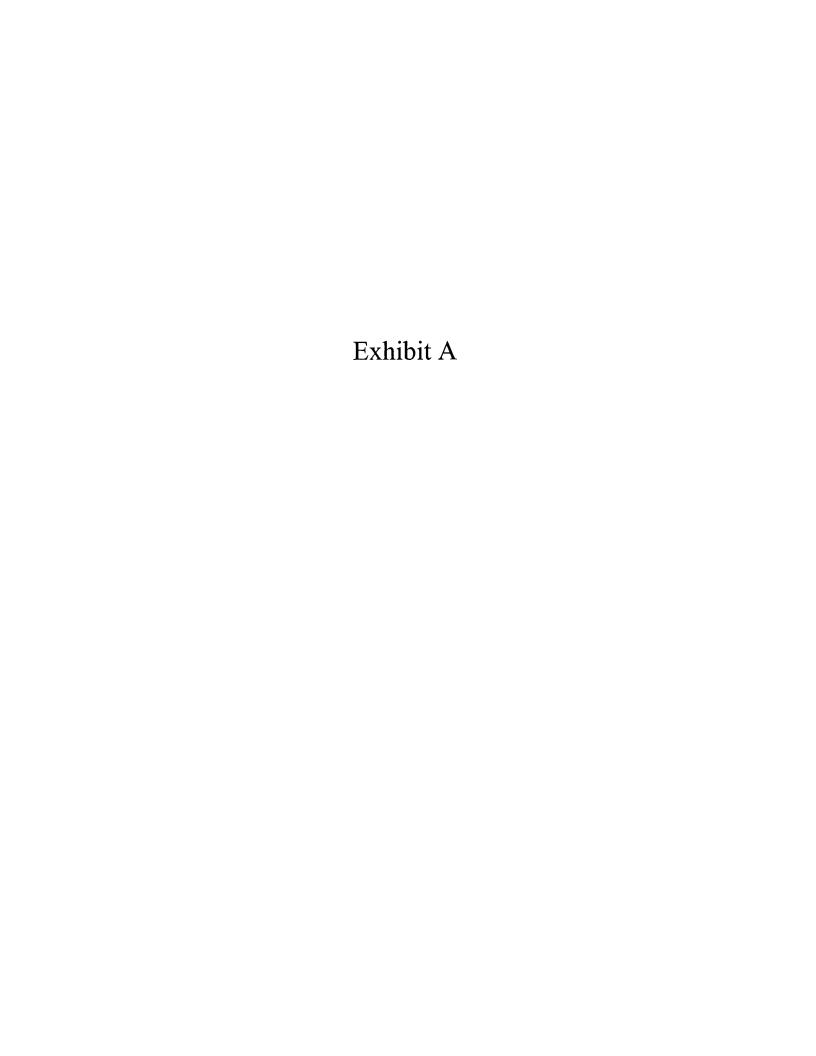
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Merriana Websters

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2es-crow \cs-'krō, 'es-\ vt (1949): to place in escrow es-cu-do \is-'kü-(\)d\[o\]\ n, pl-dos \[Sp & Pg, \]\ lit., shield, fr. L scutum] \[(ca. 1821) 1: any of various former gold or silver coins of Hispanic countries 2— see MONEY table 3: the basic monetary unit of Chile between 1960 and 1975 4: the pess of Guinea-Bissau es-cu-lent \'cs-ky-lent\) adj \[[L esculentus, fr. esca food, fr. edere to eat — more at EAT\]\[(l5c6): EDIBLE — esculent n
es-cutch-eon \(\)\is-'k>-chən\\ n \[ME \) escochon, fr. MF escuchon, fr. (assumed) \(VL \) scution, scutio, fr. L scutum shield — more at ES\[O\]\[(l5c)\)\] 1: a defined area on which armorial bearings are displayed and which usu. consists of a shield 2: a protective or ornamental plate or flange (as around a keyhole) 3: the part of a ship's stern on which the name is displayed

which tash. Chanasts of the part of a ship's stern on which the name is displayed

Es-dras \(\frac{1}{2}\) experiments \(\frac{1}{2}\) [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb \(\frac{1}{2}\) Ezr\(\frac{1}{2}\)] 1: either of two books of the Roman Catholic canon of the Old Testament: a: EZRA 2 b: NEHEMIAH 2: 2: either of two uncanonical books of Scripture included in the Protestant Apocrypha—see BIBLE table

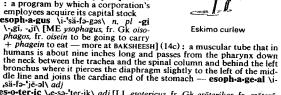
1-ese \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. \(\frac{1}{2}\)' ese \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. \(\frac{1}{2}\)' ese \(\frac{1}{2}\)'. \(\f

plustic | (161/1) : snaping of naving the power to snape unsparae things into a unified whole (the ~ power of the poetic imagination —W. H. Gardner) es-er-ine \end{array} \text{es-er-ine} \neq \end{array} = \text{mes-er-ine} \neq \end{array} = \text{n [Ir eiseir ridge] (1848) : a long narrow ridge or mound of sand, gravel, and boulders deposited by a stream flowing on, within, or beneath a stagnant glacier

Es-ki-mo \'es-k>-m\delta\ n [obs. Esquimawe, prob. fr. Sp esquimao, fr. Montagnais (Algonquian language of eastern Canada) aiachkime8 Micmac, Eskimo prob. akin to modern Montagnais assimew she laces a snowshoe. Ojibwa askime] (1584) 1 pl Eskimo or Eskimos: a member of a group of peoples of northern Canada, Greenland, Alaska, and eastern Siberia 2: any of the languages of the Eskimo peoples — Es-ki-mo-an \cs-k>-m\dots-m\dots n (1813): an extremely rare New World curlew (Numenius borealis) that breeds in northern No. America and winters in So. America

Eskimo dog n (1774): a sled dog of

American origin **ESOP** \(\bar{e}\_i \cdot es-(\cdot\)\(\bar{e}\_i \cdot\)\(\bar{e}\_i \cdot



cie îne anu joins sue cardiac end of the storing in a significal adj es-o-ter-ic \e-s-o-ter-ik\ adj [LL esotericus, fr. Gk esōterikos, fr. esōterō, compar. of eisō, esō within, fr. eis into; akin to Gk en în — more at în] (ca. 1660) 1 a; designed for or understood by the specially initiated alone (a body of ~ legal doctrine —B. N. Cardozo) b; of or relating to knowledge that is restricted to a small group 2 a; limited to a small circle (~ pursuits) b; prevate, confidential (an ~ purpose) — es-o-ter-i-cal-ly \-i-k\sigma\ n pl [NL, fr. Gk esōterika, neut. pl. of esōterikos] (ca. 1929); esoteric items es-o-ter-i-cism \-'ter-o-si-zom\ n (1846) 1; esoteric doctrines or practices 2: the quality or state of being esoteric ESP \-\e-c\e-c\e-c\e-r\e-c\e-p\end{align} n [extrasensory perception] (1934); Extrasensory perception)

PERCEPTION es-pa-drille \cs-pa-,dril\ n [F, alter of espardille, ultim. fr. L spartum] (1892): a sandal usu. having a fabric upper and a flexible sole \( \frac{\text{les-pal-ier}}{\text{is-pal-yer}}, \text{-ya\}\ n [F, ultim. fr. It spalla shoulder, fr. LL spatula shoulder blade — more at EPAULET] (1662) 1: a plant (as a fruit tree) trained to grow flat against a support (as a wall) 2: a railing or trellis on which fruit trees or shrubs are trained to grow flat \( \frac{2\text{espalier}}{\text{v}} \text{v} \text{(1810)} 1: to train as an espalier 2: to furnish with an espalier

Pespalier vt (1810) 1: to train as an espalier 2: to furnish with an espalier espalier espalier espalier espalier espalier espar-to \is-'par-(,hto\ n, pl-tos [Sp, fr. L spartum, fr. Gk sparton — more at spire] (1845) 1: either of two Spanish and Algerian grasses (Stipa tenacissima and Lygeum spartum) used esp. to make cordage, shoes, and paper — called also esparto grass 2: the fiber of esparto especial \is-'pe-sho\\ adj [ME, fr. MF — more at special.] (14c): being distinctive: as a: directed toward a particular individual, group, or end \( \sent \sim \text{greetings to his son} \) \( \text{(tok or care to speak clearly} \) b: of special note or importance: unusually great or significant \( \sqrt{a} \) decision of \( \sim \text{relevance} \) c: highly distinctive or personal: PECULIAR (had an \sim \text{distinctive} or personal: PECULIAR (had an \sim \text{distinctive} or especial-ly \) \( \text{is-'pe-sha-} \) adv \( \text{(15c)} \) 1: SPECIALLy 1 2 a: in particular: PARTICULAR (had no \sim \text{dod seems cheaper, \sim \text{meats} b: for a particular purpose (built \sim \text{for research}) 3 - used as an intensive \( \an \sim \sim \text{godod seems} \) \( \text{(son seeper-ance} \) \( \text{(solod seems cheaper, \sim \text{meats} b: for a particular purpose (built \sim \text{for research}) 3 - used as an intensive \( \an \sim \sim \text{godod seems} \) \( \text{(solod seem-besperannce} \) \( \text{(solod seeperannce} \) \( \text{(solod seeperannto} \) \( \text{(solod seeper

es-pi-al \is-'pī(-a)l\ n (14c) 1: OBSERVATION 2

es-pi-al \is-'pi(-a)|\ n (14c) 1: OBSERVATION 2: DISCOVERY
es-piè-gle \es-pyegl<sup>3</sup>\ adj [F, after Ulespiegle (Till ant prankster] (1816): FROLICSOME, ROGUISH es-piè-gle-rie \es-pyeg-la-rê n [F, fr. espiègle] (18 state of being roguish or frolicsome es-pi-o-nage \'es-pè-a-n\"azh, -n\"aj, -n\"j, Canad o 'n\"azh; is-'pē-a-n\"i, n [F espionnage, fr. MF, fr. esp pion spy, fr. Olt spione, fr. spia, of Gmc origin; aki spy — more at spy [(1793)]: the practice of spyi obtain information about the plans and activities e ernment or a competing company (industrial \simes\) es-pla-nade \'es-pla-n\"ad, es-pla-' also '-nad or spianata, fr. spianare to level, fr. L explanare (1591): a level open stretch of paved or grassy gi signed for walking or driving along a shore es-pous-al \is-'pa\"a\za also '-pa\"u\s vi es-poused; es-po es-pouse \is-'pa\"u\za also '-p\"a\"u\s vi es-poused; es-po espouser, fr. LL sponsare to betroth, fr. L sponsas b spouse \in \text{1}(152): 1: MARRY 2: to take up and sup; come attached to \syn sec ADOPT — es-pous-er n espres-so \e-'spre-(.)s\"o\ n. pl-sos [It (\alpha f\"e\)) es-prit \in \text{1}(1791): \text{1} ness or \text{wit} 2: ESPRIT DE CORPS
es-prit \is-'pr\"e\ n [F, fr. L spiritus spirit] (1591): \text{1} ness or \text{wit} 2: ESPRIT DE CORPS
es-prit \is-'pr\"e\ n [F, fr. L spiritus spirit] (1591): \text{1} spirit existing in the members of a group and in

ness or wit 2: ESPRIT DE CORPS
es-prit de corps \is-prê-də-'kôr, -'kôr\ n [F] [1'
spirit existing in the members of a group and in
devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the grc
es-py \is-prit ve-s-pied; es-py-ing [ME espien, fr. (
spy] (14c): to catch sight of (among the several h
the white mustang —Zane Grey)
-esque \(\text{vest}\) adj suffix [F, fr. 1 esco, of Gmc origi
-ish — more at ISH]: in the manner or style of: lik

-esque \\ 'esk\\ adj\ suffix [F, fr. It -esco, of Gmc origi-ish — more at \\ 18H\]: in the manner or style of: lik \\ Es-qui-mau \\ 'es-k-m\0 \\ n\ p\ B-guimau\ or \\ Es-q\ ai-mau\ (es-k-m\0)\ n\ p\ B-guimau\ or \\ Es-q\ ai-mau\ (es-k-m\0)\ n\ p\ B-g\ ai-mau\ or \\ Es-q\ ai-mau\ (es-k-m\0)\ n\ (es-k-m\0)

male (giantess)
essay \e-'sā, ə-'sā, 'e-,sā\ vt (14c) 1: to put to a to

often tentative or experimental effort to perform:

often tentative or experimental effort to perform: TEMFI—es-say-er n

les-say 'e-sä; senses 1, 2 & 4 also e-'sä\ n [ME, fr. L. exagium act of weighing, fr. ex- + agere to drive (14c) 1: TRIAL TEST 2 a: EFFORT. ATTEMPT; esp: effort b: the result or product of an attempt 3 interpretative literary composition usu. dealing with limited or personal point of view b: something composition (a photographic \sigma 4: a proof of an for a stamp or piece of paper money

es-say-ist' 'e-sä-ist\ n (1601): a writer of essays

es-say-is-tic \,e-(.)sā-'is-tik\ adj (1862) 1: of or rel: an essayist 2: resembling an essay in quality or che essay question n (1947): an examination questio answer in a sentence, paragraph, or short compositic

answer in a sentence, paragraph, or short compositie es-sence \(\frac{1}{2}\)es-more at 1s \([14c]\) 1 a: the permanent as contra dental element of being b: the individual, real, or t — more at 18] (14c) 1 a: the permanent as contradental element of being b: the individual, real, or thing esp as opposed to its existence c: the prop by means of which something can be placed in its pittified as being what it is 2: something that exists: a volatile substance or constituent (as of perfume ent or derivative possessing the special qualities (as in concentrated form; also: a preparation of such a thetic substitute b: ODOR, PERFUME 4: one that pot a quality in abundance as if in concentrated form punctuality) — in essence: in or by its very nat ansastically (was in essence an honest person) — of the utmost importance (time is of the essence)— of the utmost importance (time is of the essence). Ess-sen (1-\$sen, 1-\$sen, 1-\$

to be indispensable. ESSENTIAL implies belonging to a thing and therefore being incapable of removal v the thing itself or its character (conflict is essential. MENTAL applies to something that is a foundation entire system or complex whole would collapse (faples of algebra). VITAL suggests something that thing's continued existence or operation (cut off for CARDINAL suggests something on which an outcome (a cardinal rule in buying a home).

\*\*essential\*\* and it is a something basic (the \$\sigma\$s is something necessary, indispensable, or unavoidable essential amino acid n (1935): an amino acid (as 1); normal health and growth, manufactured in the biguantities or not at all, and usu, supplied by dietary pessent-tial-ism \(\sigma

